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Unto His GRACE

THEIR MAJESTIES High Commissioner

AND THE

Right Honourable the ESTATES

OF

PARLIAMENT.

THE

PETITION

Of the Session of the New Church of the *Cannongate.*

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Humbly Sheweth,

THAT whereas the said New Church of the *Cannongate*, Built by Order and Direction of the late King *James*; in place of the *Abbay* Church, with part of the Moneys Mortified by Umwhile *Thomas Moody*, and left in the Hands of the Good Town of *Edinburgh*, Is an Ædifice so Vast and Large, That it will require a great deal of Money to Maintain its Roof and Windows, and to preserve it from the Violence of Stormy Weather. And as the Reparation thereof within has already Engaged the Session of the said Parish in the Debt of 4000 Merks *Scots* Money: So it doth yet require a great deal more of Work and Artifice, both in the Floor and Roof, that it may be made more easie for the Preacher, and more Useful, Commodius and Comfortable for all the Hearers, especially for persons of Honour that does frequent the same: It being very needful, to check the great Resonancy that is in it, which does now exceedingly obstruct and hinder the Hearing. And the said Parish of the *Cannongate* having nothing of a Mortification or Fond, that can answer these Ends, or furnish Money for defray-

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ing of the many incident Charges that the Seſſion of that Pariſh is neceſſarly put to; not having ſo much as an Allowance for Communion Elements, or paying the meaneſt Attendant on the Church, but what comes from the Poors Box; and the Weekly Collections of a conſiderable part of the Pariſh being otherwayes applyed: And Collections that are made at the New Church Door, not being able to maintain the half of the Poor of the place. And ſeing alſo it was Recommended by the Late King *James* to the Lords of His Theſaury (when He removed the Pariſhoners of the *Canongate* from the *Abbay* Church) to make up the Loſs that that Pariſh would be at, through the want and decay of their ordinar Collections; by giving out of the Theſaury Fifty pound Sterling a Year, Ay and While the New Church ſhould be Built; whereof nothing has been either ſought by the Seſſion, or granted by the Lords of Theſaury. And ſince there is a conſiderable part of *Moodie*'s Money yet in the Hands of the ſaid Town of *Edinburgh*;

May *it therefore pleaſe Your* Grace, *and the Honourable Eſtates of Parliament to Appoint and Order the* Magiſtrates *of* Edinburgh, *to grant unto the Seſſion of the New* Church *of the* Cannongate, *out of the ſaid* Money Mortified *by the deceaſt* Thomas Moodie, *yet in their hands, the Sum of Nine Thouſand* Merks Scots Money, *wherewith we know the Repreſentatives of the ſaid* Thomas Moodie *will chearfully* Concur *and* Comply. And *as this will be a great Act of Charity from this Honourable* Court, *a great Eaſe to the Place, ſadly Impoveriſhed by* Local *and Tranſient* Quarterings, Ceſſes, Annuities, *and other publick Burdens, and a* Rational, Proper, *and Juſt* Application *of the ſaid* Money, *to thoſe Ends whereon the moſt of it has been already beſtowed, and whereto all of it was deſigned by the will of the* Mortifier. *So it will oblige Your Petitioners ever to Pray,* &c.